

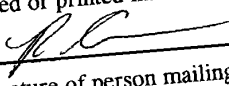


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Date of Deposit March 24, 2003

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Ron Cada

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(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

#7B Amt  
M. Brunson  
4/1/03

Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 032590-025

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

KUROKAWA et al.

Application No.: 09/340,718

Filed: June 29, 1999

For: INFORMATION READING  
APPARATUS AND INFORMATION  
RECORDING MEDIUM

) Confirmation No.: 4267  
)  
) Group Art Unit: 2876  
)  
) Examiner: Taylor, Larry D.  
)  
)  
)  
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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 24, 2002, please amend the subject application as follows:

03-25-03

GP 2876



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Patent  
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) **Box: Response-No Fee**  
)  
) **Group Art Unit: 2876**  
)  
) **Examiner: Taylor, Larry D.**  
)  
) **Confirmation No.: 4267**  
)  
)  
)

**AMENDMENT/REPLY TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Enclosed is an Amendment and Reply in response to the Office Action, mailed December 24, 2002, for the above-identified patent application.

☒ No additional claim fee is required.

☐ An additional claim fee is required, and is calculated as shown below:

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MAR 27 2003

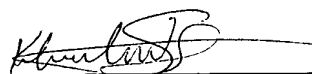
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AMENDED CLAIMS					
	NO. OF CLAIMS	HIGHEST NO. OF CLAIMS PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	ADDT'L FEE
Total Claims	42	MINUS 42 =	0	× \$18.00 (1202) =	.00
Independent Claims	13	MINUS 13 =	0	× \$84.00 (1201) =	.00
If Amendment adds multiple dependent claims, add \$280.00 (1203)					
Total Amendment Fee					
If small entity status is claimed, subtract 50% of Total Amendment Fee					
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE DUE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					.00

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By:   
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Date: March 24, 2003